

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Josh C. Snider, in the telephone interview conducted on February 24, 2004, between the Examiner and Mr. Snider. Independent claims 1 and 14-16 were discussed, and agreement was reached regarding new proposed claim language.

Specifically, agreement was initially reached that the substance of the claims of the present invention were not at issue, in as much as was the issue of whether or not the claims clearly recited the features of the present invention as argued by Applicants. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 14-16 have been amended herein to more clearly recite the previously argued features of the present invention, namely, that the recited "edge" of the present invention is not one of the opposing flat surfaces of the display device, nor is it included within the display area of the flat panel. By these agreed upon amendments, Applicants therefore submit that the outstanding obviousness rejection has been overcome as follows.

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Youn (U.S. 5,856,816). As discussed, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 14-16 to better define the features of the present invention, and respectfully traverse in light of these amendments.

More specifically, the independent claims of the present invention have been amended to clarify that the recited edge of the present invention is a different feature of the

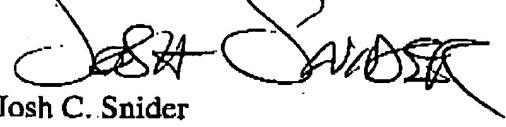
invention than the flat surfaces of the display panel, and that the edge is adjacent to and outside a display area of the display panel. Although Applicants submit that one skilled in the art would have been able to understand this configuration of the present invention from the claims as they were last amended, Applicants have amended the claims herein in order to expedite prosecution.

For all of the foregoing reasons therefore, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 1-21, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should he find that any further issues exist related to patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

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